

REMARKS

Minor amendments have been made to the specification to correct an obvious error. No new matter has been introduced with these amendments, which are supported in the specification as originally filed. (See, for example, Fig. 4B, where the HTTP GET response 480 follows, rather than precedes, the TCP request 470; therefore, it is obvious that the phrase deleted herein from lines 16 - 17 of p. 20 was a cut-and-paste error.)

Claims 1 - 30 remain in the application.

I. Claim Objections

Paragraph 1 of the Office Action dated July 24, 2003 (hereinafter, "the Office Action") states that Claims 2 and 5 are objected to because of the term "an HTTP". This is proper grammar. See, for example, (i) the definition for HTTP at <http://whatis.techtarget.com>, which refers to "an HTTP daemon" and so forth; (ii) <http://www.w3c.org/protocols>, which refers to "an HTTP binding"; and (iii) RFC 2616, "Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.1", which contains more than 60 occurrences of "an HTTP" but only 2 occurrences of "a HTTP".

The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw this objection.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Paragraph 2 of the Office Action states that Claims 28 - 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular,

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the phrase "uni-directional protocol" is cited. Support for this term is found in Applicant's specification on p. 4, lines 3 - 6. As stated therein, TCP is designed as a bi-directional protocol, where either party can initiate a message to the other. While this text does not specifically use the term "uni-directional", it is implied by contrast. In particular, the text states "HTTP, on the other hand" (i.e., as contrasted to a bi-directional protocol; emphasis added) uses a model "wherein requests are initiated [only] by a client ... the protocol does not provide for server-initiated messages". In other words, this sentence is describing a uni-directional model: requests can be initiated only in one direction, by the client but not by the server.

Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the term "uni-directional protocol" is in fact supported in his specification, in view of the discussions therein of the HTTP protocol, and the Examiner is requested to withdraw this rejection.

III. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Paragraph 3 of the Office Action states that Claims 1 - 4, 6 - 13, 15 - 22, and 24 - 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent 6,412,009 to Erickson et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant's independent Claims 1, 10, and 19 specify limitations that include use of a "send channel" and a "receive channel". Both of these channels are established between "a first component" and "a second component". (See lines 4 - 6 and lines 7 - 8 of Claim 1, for example). Independent Claim 28 also specifies a send channel and a receive channel established between a

first component and a second component. (See lines 3 - 5 and lines 6 - 7.) These independent claims further specify that the send channel is used for transmitting client-initiated requests (see lines 13 - 14 of Claim 1 and lines 12 - 13 of Claim 28), whereas the receive channel is used for transmitting server-initiated requests (see lines 15 - 16 of Claim 1 and lines 14 - 15 of Claim 28). Fig. 3 shows these channels as elements 330 (the receive channel) and 340 (the send channel). Fig. 4A illustrates use of the send channel 340, and Fig. 4B illustrates use of the receive channel 330.

Erickson, on the other hand, uses a single connection for transmitting messages in both directions. This is stated throughout Erickson's disclosure. See, for example, the following references:

- Final sentence of the Abstract, referring to "the" bi-directional persistent connection, which allows "interleaving" of messages from the client with messages "on" [presumably, "of" or "from"] the server.
- Fig. 3, illustrating a single connection at HTTP tunnel 129
- Field of the Invention, which states at col. 1, lines 8 - 9 that "a" persistent HTTP tunnel is used
- Lines 57 - 59 of col. 2, which refer again to interleaving messages from the client and messages from the server on "the" persistent HTTP tunnel
- Col. 3, lines 27 - 29 also refer to interleaving client-initiated messages and server-initiated messages on "the" persistent HTTP tunnel
- Col. 6, lines 28 - 30 state that one connection remains active during a series of

interleaved messages between the client and server, and lines 33 - 35 state that the interleaved messages "alternate between the Web client and the Web server as the sender"

Notably, lines 53 - 62 of col. 7 specify this use of a single connection as a particular advantage of Erickson's technique. As stated therein, the sending of Telnet messages (which are "chunked" within HTTP messages) on the connection "... continues without having a new connection established ..." and "Because only one connection is needed during the communication flow ... [performance is improved]" (emphasis added).

Applicant's independent claims all specify use of two channels (i.e., the send channel and receive channel, as stated above), in contrast to Erickson's technique which uses a single connection. Thus, Applicant's independent Claims 1, 10, 19, and 28 are patentably distinct from Erickson.

Furthermore, Erickson leverages the HTTP 1.1 chunking mechanism to enable keeping the single connection alive. See, for example, col. 8, lines 21 - 23, which state that Erickson's use of chunking "allows the Web client and host system to exchange a series of messages without having to open a new connection". Erickson specifically states that version 1.1 of HTTP is required for his invention, in order to provide chunking support (since version 1.0 did not have a chunking option). See col. 8, lines 16 - 19. Applicant's invention has no such dependency on HTTP 1.1 or on its chunking functionality.

Applicant respectfully submits that a *prima facie* case of anticipation has therefore not been made out. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 1 - 4, 6 - 13, 15 - 22, and 24 - 29 as originally presented are patentable over the cited reference, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the §102 rejection thereof.

IV. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Paragraph 4 of the Office Action states that Claims 5, 14, 23, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Erickson in view of the HTTP 1.1 specification defined in RFC 2068 (referred to in the Office Action as Fielding). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As demonstrated above, Erickson does not teach the limitations of Applicant's independent claims. Therefore, Erickson cannot be combined with RFC 2068 to teach the limitations of Applicant's dependent Claims 5, 14, 23, and 30.

Furthermore, the Office Action admits that Erickson does not teach use of HTTP GET request messages, which are specified as limitations of dependent Claims 5, 14, and 23 (Claim 30 refers instead to a "read request message") and then cites col. 6, lines 14 - 18 of Erickson for the motivation to combine Erickson with RFC 2068. However, what is stated in that text has nothing to do with HTTP GET messages. Instead, it merely states that HTTP 1.1 specifies the chunking option. Therefore, the references do not provide a motivation for combining Erickson and RFC 2068 (and at any rate, a combination thereof would not yield Applicant's claimed invention).

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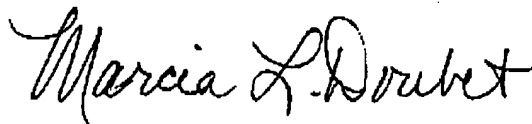
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Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that a *prima facie* case of obviousness under §103 has not been made out, and the Examiner is therefore requested to withdraw the rejection of Claims 5, 14, 23, and 30.

V. Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending rejected claims, withdrawal of all presently outstanding objections and rejections, and allowance of all claims at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



Marcia L. Doubet
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. Nbr. 40,999

Docket No. RSW9-2000-0054-US1
Cust. Nbr. 25260
Phone: 407-343-7586
Fax: 407-343-7587

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